Amendments to the Claims

The following listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

1. (Currently amended) An implant having a thin and supple structure, characterised in that it is configured to treat cystocele and comprises a support body (2) made of porous bio-compatible material, from which extend at least:

two anterior suspension straps (3) on both sides of a sagittal plane (S),

two posterior suspension straps (4) on both sides of a sagittal plane (S),

and two middle suspension straps (5) on both sides of a sagittal plane (S) and between the anterior and the posterior straps (3) and (4).

2. (Original) An implant according to claim 1, characterised in that the longitudinal axes (A_3) of the anterior straps (3) form an angle (α) exceeding 45°.

3. (Original) An implant according to claim 2, characterised in that the longitudinal axes (A_3) of the anterior straps (3) form an angle (α) between 100° and 180°.

4. (Original) An implant according to claim 2, characterised in that angle (α) is between 115° and 170°.

5. (Previously amended) An implant according to claim 1, characterised in that the longitudinal axes (A_4) of the posterior straps (4) form an angle (β) that is not zero.

6. (Original) An implant according to claim 5, characterised in that the angle (β) exceeds 10°.

7. (Original) An implant according to claim 6, characterised in that the angle (β) is between 10° and 75°.

8. (Currently amended) An implant according to claim [[7]] 6, characterised in that the angle (β) is between 100° and 180°.

9. (Previously amended) An implant according to claim 1, characterised in that the longitudinal axis (A_5) of each middle suspension strap (5) forms, with the anterior part of the sagittal plane (S), and angle (γ) of between 100° and 140°, preferably between 110° and 130°.

10. (Previously amended) An implant according to claim 1, characterised in that the length of the anterior straps (3) exceeds 100 mm.

11. (Previously amended) An implant according to claim 1, characterised in that the length of the posterior straps (4) exceeds 100 mm.

12. (Previously amended) An implant according to claim 1, characterised in that the length of the middle straps (5) exceeds 100 mm.

13. (Previously amended) An implant according to claim 1, characterised in that the whole shape of the support body (2) is substantially rectangular.

14. (Previously amended) An implant according to claim 13, characterised in that the length (L_2) of the support body (2) is between 60 mm and 90 mm and the width is between 40 mm and 60 mm.

15. (Previously amended) An implant according to claim 13, characterised in that the anterior straps (3) substantially extend from the anterior corners of the support body (2).

16. (Previously amended) An implant according to claim 1, characterised in that the posterior straps (4) substantially extend from the posterior corners of the support body (2).

17. (Previously amended) A device for the introduction of an implant (1) according to claim 1, characterised in that it comprises an introduction member (20) that has a supple structure and whose shape is similar to that of the implant (1) and that comprises:

a hollow body (21) defining a cavity for the reception of the body (2) of the implant (1),

tubular branches (22) extending from the hollow body (21) each defining a cavity for the reception of a suspension strap (3,4,5) of the implant (1),

means for traction (23) extending from the end of each of the branches (22) of the introduction member,

and means for allowing cutting of at least the hollow body (21) of the introduction member (20).

18. (Original) An introduction device according to claim 17, characterised in that the means of traction (23) include a semi-rigid needle for each tubular branch (21).

19. (Currently amended) An introduction device according to claim 17, characterised in that the means for allowing cutting comprise at least one aperture (24) for the passage of a cutting instrument.

20. (Previously amended) An introduction device according to claim 17, characterised in that it comprises an implant (1) according to claim 1 placed in the cavity of the hollow body (21) and the tubular branches (22).

21. (Original) An introduction device according to claim 20, characterised in that the implant (1) is free inside the introduction device (10).

22. (Previously amended) An introduction device according to claim 17, characterised in that it also comprises an elongated perforator guide (10) or trocar, one end (12) of which is made to be introduced in the patient's body and the other end is equipped with a handle (14).

23. (Original) An introduction device according to claim 22, characterised in that the shape of the perforator guide (10) is curved in one plane.

24. (Previously amended) An introduction device according to claim 23, characterised in that the curved part (15) of the perforator (10) extends over an angular sector exceeding 140°.

25. (Previously amended) An introduction device according to claim 23, characterised in that the curved part (15) of the perforator guide (10) has a radius of curvature R of between 30 mm and 60 mm.

26. (Original) An introduction device according to claim 22, characterised in that the perforator guide (10) has a helicoid shape at the end opposite to the handle or distal end (17).

27. (Previously amended) An introduction device according to claim 26, characterised in that the distal end (17) of the perforator guide (10) has the shape of a portion of helicoid spire extending over an angle of between 180° and 350°.

28. (Original) An introduction device according to claim 27, characterised in that the spire (17) of the perforator guide (10) has a radius of curvature between 20 mm and 40 mm, with a pitch between 15 mm and 25 mm.

29. (Previously amended) An introduction device according to claim 22, characterised in that it also comprises a removable tubular casing (50) whose shape is complementary to that of the perforator guide (10), intended to be fit on the perforator guide (10) and remain in the patient's body after the removal of the perforator guide (10) to define a tunnel for the passage of the means of traction (23) of the introduction member (20).

30. (Currently amended) A procedure for the treatment of cystocele in women, characterised in that it consists essentially of:

using an implant (1) according to claim 1;

inserting the implant (1) in the body of the patient by placing:

each of the anterior suspension straps (3) in an ~~obstructed hole~~ obturated foramen,

each of the middle suspension straps (5) in a corresponding middle translevator region,

each of the posterior suspension straps (4) in a corresponding uterosacral region,

and the support body (2) in the anterior vaginal wall.

31. (Currently amended) A procedure for the treatment of cystocele in women, characterised in that it consists essentially of:

using an implant (1) according to claim 1;

inserting the implant (1) in the body of the patient by placing:

each of the anterior suspension straps (3) in an ~~obstructed hole~~ obturated foramen,

each of the middle suspension straps (5) in an inferoposterior region of the corresponding ~~obstructed hole~~ obturated foramen,

each of the posterior suspension straps (4) in a corresponding uterosacral region,

and the support body (2) in the anterior vaginal wall.

32. (Currently amended) ~~Procedure~~ A procedure for the treatment of cystocele in women according to claim 30, characterised in that it in particular consists of placing each of the posterior suspension straps through the corresponding ~~uterosacrtal~~ uterosacral ligament.

33. (Currently amended) ~~Procedure~~ A procedure for the treatment of cystocele in women according to claim 30, characterised in that it in particular consists of placing each of the posterior suspension straps (4) through the corresponding ~~uterosacrtal~~ uterosacral ligament and in the corresponding transgluteal region.

34. (Currently amended) ~~Procedure~~ A procedure for the treatment of cystocele in women according to claim 33, characterised in that it in particular consists of placing each of the posterior suspension straps (4) through the corresponding uterosacral ligament and through the corresponding sacrosciatic ligament.

35. (New) An implant according to claim 1, wherein said porous bio-compatible material is selected from the group consisting of: a synthetic material; a woven material; a non-woven material; a knit material; polypropylene fibres; polyester fibres; a material coated with products favouring cell growth; a natural material; fascia latta; a biological resorbent material; and a synthetic resorbent material.